

The Church Bell

November 10, 2021

VOL. 77, ISSUE 23



327 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101-3003 (573-636-5157)

God's Blessings

Dr. Jim Hill

Interim Senior Minister

Often when we encounter a friend or family member we are asked, "How are you doing?" Sometimes I reply, "Better than I deserve." I have joked with friends that I do not want justice—I want mercy. If we are honest, the last thing most of us want is what we deserve. Every day I am reminded of the many ways God graciously provides for my life. I do not know about you, but sometimes I am amazed by the blessings God gives me. At times, I am overwhelmed by his generosity. The scripture reminds us that *every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father* (James 1:17). We serve such a great and gracious God. All that we are and all that we have are gifts from God. Every breath we take is a gift from God.

This past weekend as we gathered for our *Heritage Celebration*, we had the opportunity to remember some of God's blessing upon this church family for more than 140 years. One of easiest ways to rediscover a spirit of gratitude and humility is to begin to name all that God has done for you. I want to suggest that as you gather with family and friends in a couple weeks to celebrate the Thanksgiving season that you set aside some time to remember God's blessings. Sometimes it is helpful to make a list of God's blessings. Once you have listed them, take the time to thank God and to praise his name.

Each year as our family gathers for our Thanksgiving meal, we hold hands as we offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God. Before we pray, we go around the table and allow each person to share something they are thankful for this year. The table has changed through the years. It began when Bettie Jo and I were young and sometimes Bettie Jo's parents were with us. As our children were born the table grew. Now our table includes children and grandchildren, but Bettie Jo's parents have gone to be with the Lord. The table has changed in size and those present, but God has never changed. He has been faithful to us throughout the years. Maybe you can begin this week to make your list of God's blessings.

Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:21 that *God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God*. What Paul meant was that we do not receive what we deserve. What we deserved was judgment and condemnation. What we received was grace and forgiveness. Jesus became my sin, so that in Christ I might become the righteous of God. I am doing so much better than I deserve. How about you? Don't forget to give thanks for God's love, grace, and forgiveness. Don't forget to give thanks for the privilege of being a child of God.

On Sunday afternoon, November 14, at 4:00 p.m. our church will host our **Annual Sam B. Cook Memorial Organ Concert**. This is a wonderful opportunity, not only for our church family, but also for the larger community. It is rare that our community can host a musician of this caliber. I hope you invite a friend and plan to be present worship and for the concert. I hope to see you on the Lord's Day.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We pray for these

Gene Adkison, Beverly Anderson, Dot Baker, Steve Brown, Jane Burd, Nellie Campbell, Richard Carroll, Darlene Charles, Doug Defreece, Nancy Dunwiddie, Ken Dykes, Jodean Foster, Marilyn Gross, Cheryl Hanson, Norma Hasselman, Jeanette Hickman, Venita Jackson, Brooks Jarrett, Shirley Jarrett, Jessica Kozlen, Matthew Lang, Michael Lister, Vivian Murphy, Patty Osman, Jackie Possinger, Doris Yelton, Our Country and our men and women serving our country, the world

Individuals will be kept on our prayer list for **four weeks** at a time. At the end of four weeks, please give Kathy a call at 573.636.5157 or email her Kathy@firstchristianjcmo.org, if you would like continued prayers for an individual. Thank you!

Members in Care Centers

COLUMBIA POST ACUTE

Glenda Crow

HEISINGER

Richard Carroll

Shirley Ferguson

Barbara Nikodyn

Norma Woodson

JC MANOR

Jackie Possinger

OAK TREE VILLA

Marilyn Gross

Shirley Jarrett

PRIMROSE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Norma Hasselman

Wendell & Myra Hubbs

Jessie Schell

ST. JOSEPH'S BLUFFS

Doris Yelton

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Mariam Craddock

OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

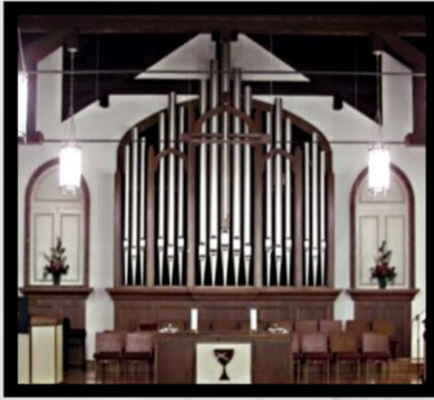
Betty Schramm

Betty Schulte

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

NOV	10	20	23
1	Bob Murphy	21	<i>Bob & Nancy Priddy</i>
Katie Woodruff	<i>Dakoda & Raven Ballard</i>	Fanci Bennett	24
2	11	Mariam Craddock	25
Jim Jordan	12	Jeanette Hickman	Carson Lepper
3	13	Bailey Markway	26
4	Dakoda Ballard	Kaley Ruff	Brenda Ruff
5	14	Winnie Shaw	27
Marty Morris	Huba Wells	22	Chase Penn
Sandra Troutt	15	Leigh Beasley	28
6	Shirley Ferguson	Joan Love	Bill Trimm
Sean Vegiard	<i>Ken & Patty Osman</i>	17	29
7	16	Gregory Fitzpatrick	Shaun Crisp
8	Stephanie Johnson	Susan Hahn	30
Jade Johnson	Linda Ringo	<i>Jon & Amanda Prouty</i>	Sandi Helton
<i>Jeff & Mitzi Snyder</i>	Rita Starnes	18	
9	Haylee Terrell	19	
Lucas Boling		Shelly Drake	
Gary Spencer		Emma Mann	
		Barb Marshall	

3RD ANNUAL SAM B. COOK MEMORIAL ORGAN CONCERT



CHRISTOPHER HOULIHAN

33-year-old virtuoso organist



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 4:00 PM

Be prepared to be wowed by 33-year-old virtuoso organist Christopher Houlihan, who established an international reputation at a young age. The Los Angeles Times hails him for his “glowing, miraculously life-affirming performances.”

This annual event has proven to be a great gift to the community, so invite your friends to attend with you!
The concert is free but seating is limited!

Hope and Healing Service Sunday November 21, 5PM Soup and Fellowship Time Following

As the holiday season approaches, we recognize this can be a difficult time for people and communities. Similar to our Blue Christmas service which will be held on December 19th, we are going to offer a Hope and Healing Worship Service on Sunday November 21st. This service will be an opportunity to acknowledge the difficulties of the season, name sources of gratitude and hope, and experience the comfort of community.

The Fellowship Team will be offering a soup dinner after the Hope and Healing service as an additional opportunity to support one another with time together. To help plan for the meal, please RSVP for dinner by contacting Rev. Sarah or the church office by November 19th. *No RSVP needed for the worship service.*

You Are Invited!

BOY SCOUT TROOP 333 AWARDS BANQUET

Monday, November 15
7:00 PM in the Activities Room

The scouts hold their meetings Monday evenings from 7 PM to 9 PM at the church. Their next camp out is December 3, 4 & 5.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining the scouts, contact Scout Master Carl Mahoney at 573-680-7901.

Welcome Our New Nursery Coordinator

Maria Wolfrum is beginning her service as our Nursery Coordinator this week. Missy Mann served in this role for several years as a volunteer, and she has helped us organize this new approach for our nursery. Maria is expecting her fifth child and is working toward a nursing degree. Maria will help ensure that we have qualified people to provide childcare during our Worship Services, Sunday School, and for other special events. She will also see that the nursery is adequately supplied with childcare resources, appropriate cleaning supplies, and snacks for the children. We want to provide a clean, safe, and loving childcare setting for our members and guests.

Maria will help us enlist and provide supervision for other paid nursery workers. Maria will also provide backup for nursery workers who are unable to work as scheduled. We are currently seeking candidates to serve as nursery workers on Sunday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to noon. We anticipate having at least two workers in the nursery in keeping with our ministry and safety procedures. Some of our members may want to volunteer to serve as a second worker during some of worship services. Contact the church office if you are interested in serving as a nursery worker or a volunteer assistant. All workers and volunteers must complete a background check, and volunteers must be at least 16 years old to assist in the nursery.



Updates from Rev. Alexis

Advent: Stories of God with Us An Invitation to Join

Last year's Advent experience provided ways for loved ones to connect across the country and sparked what have become enriching relationships between members of all ages. I am excited to share that we will continue the tradition of connecting both with the Holy and one another this year.

"Last year, I enjoyed the intergenerational experience. I recommend people participate because of the camaraderie that is formed. Relationships are everything!"

"I appreciated learning about peace, joy, and hope last year. I especially liked the session on peace. I am participating this year because I am a lifelong learner and I always am ready to learn. Alexis is a gifted teacher and the other participants help create a richer learning experience." - Vivian M.

The theme for this year's small group Advent series is Stories of God with Us. We will consider what is revealed about God in our own stories of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love while exploring those themes within the story of Jesus' birth in the Gospel we call Luke. Participating in this series provides a way to connect to and learn from one another in a meaningful way. To register, please complete this form by Saturday, November 13: <https://forms.gle/cndwFQzfDdQwQxur7>.

There are intergenerational options for youth between grades 6th-12th grade, which can include special guests the adults in our congregation might invite (such as family friends, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews). Families with 6th-12th graders are encouraged to participate together. Youth might also want to invite a "grand" person, and they are welcome to do so. When in doubt, email me (Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org). I'll be happy to answer your questions.

During a season in which materialism and other pressures can so easily capture our attention and energy, you are invited in the counter-cultural and sacred practice of developing your faith alongside your siblings in Christ.

*In Advent Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love,
Rev. Alexis*

Ways for Parent and Guardians to Connect

Parent and Guardian Faith Conversations occur the third Sunday afternoon of every month. November's session meets on the 21st from 3-4 via Zoom. Parents and guardians can join the Zoom meeting using this special link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83744778126>. More information regarding the topic of this month's theme will be provided closer to the date.

Rev. Alexis hosts casual check-in Zoom sessions during which parents and guardians can sign in at any time between noon and 1PM. These check-in sessions will be offered the first Tuesday of every month at noon via Zoom, so the next one is Tuesday, December 7. You can join by following this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87825019003>. Contact Rev. Alexis to learn more: Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org.

Our Condolences to the family of Evelyn Ward, who passed away Tuesday, October 26, 2021.

CWF Mary Circle meetings resume

Mary Circle meets the 1st Monday of each month at 1:00 PM in the gathering area. (No meetings in June, July and August). Our members have developed a close bond of friendship and fellowship. Our members participate in the Church's programs, and remember our Circle's homebound for birthdays and special days. We also provide dinners to bereaved families of our Circle. We always welcome new members. **Our next meeting is Monday, December 6th at 1:00 PM. Remember to bring your cookies for our shut-ins.** If you have questions, please contact Virginia Lister or Rev. Sarah.

Children's Sunday School Schedule

The Children's Sunday School class will meet at 9:30 AM on the 2nd and 4th Sundays through December. We will be learning more about David through crafts and cooking each month. In October we focused on his anointing; In November we will learn about his encounter with Goliath; and in December we will learn more about his relationship with Saul.

News from our Business Partnership with East Elementary School

THANK YOU for the great response for all things sweet and sticky - HALLOWEEN CANDY!! Your donations were super appreciated by all the ghosts and goblins we saw parading through the gymnasium at East School for Halloween fun. (The original plan for a Trunk or Treat on the parking lot was moved inside the gymnasium because of the rain showers.) Had you been there you would have seen Rev. Sarah "officiating" at a pretend campsite and Elaine West and Taylor Mann out-standing in their Pumpkin Patch! Fun was had by all.

Another big THANK YOU goes to Vivian Murphy, Elaine West, Lauren Eichelberger, Pat and Steve Amick and Rev. Sarah for handing out t-shirts for the students whose parents attended the fall parent/teacher conferences. I don't know who is more excited, the kids or the parents! Missy Mann once again designed the t-shirts and made sure they were ordered and delivered on time!

We are working hard to keep our partnership with East School alive and well! If you would like to be involved or learn more about our activities with East School, just let me know and THANKS!

Robin Grumm

Weekly Prayer Call

Every **Wednesday at 9:15 AM** we gather via conference call to share our prayer concerns and our celebrations and to lift them up to God together.

Call In Phone Number: (716-427-1083)

Access Code: 444928

Bible Study

Join Rev. Sarah and Rev. Alexis for Bible Study **Wednesdays at noon** in the Activities Room. We discuss the scripture for the coming Sunday.

Serving this Month

**1ST SUNDAY
NOV 7**

820AM

ELDER

Bob Priddy
Ann Littlefield

LITURGIST

Nancy Priddy

DEACONS

Marsha Posz
Kathy Brown
Venita Jackson

USHERS

Doug Hagenhoff
Milinda Dawson

COMMUNION PREP

Virginia Lister

10:40AM

ELDER

David Avery
Barbara Kuebler

LITURGIST

Elizabeth Coffman

DEACONS

Jon Prouty
Amanda Prouty
Leigh Love

USHERS

TBD

**2ND SUNDAY
NOV 14**

820AM

ELDER

Alan Nelson
Barbara Kuebler

LITURGIST

J.T. Yarnell

DEACONS

Ken Littlefield
Nancy Samp
Linda Ringo

USHERS

Joe Payne
Nike Thompson

COMMUNION PREP

Meghan Andrews

10:40AM

ELDER

Melanie Highland
J.T. Yarnell

LITURGIST

Lily Foutes

DEACONS

Blair Johnson
Steven Claycomb
Barb Gage

USHERS

Debi Wells
Georgia Griffith

**3RD SUNDAY
NOV 21**

820AM

ELDER

Patty Osman
David Avery

LITURGIST

Sherry Jordan

DEACONS

Lauren Eichelberger
Chris Lloyd
Marsha Graham

USHERS

Jim Dunwiddie
Russ Dunwiddie

COMMUNION PREP

Karen Shroyer

10:40AM

ELDER

Ray Miles
Wanda King

LITURGIST

Sydney Foutes

DEACONS

Missy Mann
Jessica Bivin
Shaun Crisp

USHERS

Morris Woodruff
Stephen Foutes

**4TH SUNDAY
NOV 28**

820AM

ELDER

Cecile Landrum
Stephen Waters

LITURGIST

Cindy Blosser

DEACONS

Doug Hagenhoff
Jenny Hagenhoff
Kathy Cavender

USHERS

Kathy Cavender
Rick Vaughan

COMMUNION PREP

Sandy Robinson

10:40AM

ELDER

Laura Avery
Ray Miles

LITURGIST

Barb Gage

DEACONS

Stephen Foutes
Brenda Foutes
Sherry Anderson

USHERS

TBD

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 Finance@firstchristianjcmo.org

 Login with Facebook

facebook.com/fccjcmo

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:
 Please contact Rev. Kingsbery at 573-690-2480 **Non-emergency** church-related items after working hours, Monday thru Friday 8AM to 5PM, we have voice mail. Please feel free to call the church (573-636-5157) at any time and leave a message. **NOTE: IF YOU LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE ON FRIDAY (AFTER 5PM), SATURDAY, OR SUNDAY, IT WILL NOT BE CHECKED UNTIL MONDAY MORNING. THANK YOU.**

 The next *Church Bell* will be sent November 24, 2021.
 (Articles are due by noon the Monday before)



MOBILE GIVING
 -TEXT 4842368 TO
 715-803-4772
 AND FOLLOW THE
 PROMPTS ON YOUR PHONE

**-DOWNLOAD THE
 "GIVERS APP"
 (FROM CONTINUE TO GIVE)**

Zoom Meeting Room meeting ID is **2202286773**.
 If you need the password, please contact the church office at 573-636-5157 or one of our leaders. To join in on our free conference calls, dial (716) 427-1083 and enter access code 444928.

Please email or call Tina Mollenkamp tinamollenkamp@cgcb.org/573-522-4314), if you would like to be on Common Grounds email newsletter list, regular mailing list, or both. As an alternative, you can also sign up for the email newsletters on our website at www.cgcb.org.



You may also give online at firstchristianjcmo.org/donate

Financial Records and Questions

Questions related to giving and church finances should be sent to Carol Kaylor at finance@firstchristianjcmo.org. We have contracted with CALD services, a local accounting firm specializing in religious non-profits, to provide these critical functions.

Who Are We? We call ourselves Disciples, a community of believers who follow Jesus by *worshiping* God, *growing* in faith, and *servicing* all in need. Bound to each other in Christ's love, we discover our life together through *sharing* life with the world.

WEBSITES YOU NEED TO STAY CONNECTED

Mid-America Updates: <http://www.mid-america-disciples.org/newsletter-signup/>
 Disciples News Service Updates: <http://disciples.org/dns/subscribe-to-dns/>

"The Church Bell" (UPS 110-580) by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Jefferson City, Missouri, is published bi-weekly and there is no issue the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Periodicals paid at Jefferson City, Missouri. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Editor/Church Secretary, First Christian Church, 327 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.